

## MINUTES OF TFCG MEETING

**To:** Distribution

**From:** Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications Corporation

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on May 5, 2010. The following people were in attendance:

### MEMBERS

|                   |                 |                |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Marjorie Williams | DTS/OCCS        | (240) 777-3762 |
| Mary Pat Wilson   | MCPS/Facilities | (240) 314-4707 |
| David Niblock     | DPS             | (240) 777-6252 |
| Helen Mu          | DTS             |                |
| Carlton Gilbert   | MNCPPC          |                |

### STAFF

|               |     |                |
|---------------|-----|----------------|
| Bob Hunnicutt | CTC | (301) 933-1488 |
| Marty Liebman | CTC | (301) 933-1488 |

### OTHER ATTENDEES

|                    |                        |                            |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sean Hughes        | Sean Hughes Law Office | shugheslaw@comcast.net     |
| Amy Yontef-McGrath | Sean Hughes Law Office | amyyontefmcgrath@yahoo.com |
| John Kessler       | NewPath                |                            |
| Rebecca Hunter     | NB&C/NewPath           |                            |
| Gregory S. Tully   | NB&C/NewPath           |                            |

**Action Item Meeting Minutes:** David Niblock moved the minutes be approved as written. Mary Pat Wilson seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Action Item Consent Agenda Applications:**

1. AT&T Wireless application to attach a microwave dish at the 110' level atop the 108'-high WSSC Bradley water tank #2, 7005B Radnor Road, Bethesda (#201004-02).  
*Conditioned on providing to DPS documentation of a legal right from WSSC to attach antennas at the time of permitting.*
2. Clearwire application to add three antennas to existing Clearwire antennas atop the Pavillion Apartments building, 5901 Montrose Road, Rockville (#201005-01).
4. Clearwire application to attach five antennas to the penthouse walls atop the White Flint Crossing building, 11404 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda (#201005-03).

5. Clearwire application to replace antennas on a monopole on the Knights of Columbus property, 17001 Overhill Road, Derwood (#201005-04).
6. Clearwire application to attach six antennas to the monopole on Albert Einstein High School property, 11135 Newport Mill Road, Silver Spring (#201005-08).  
*Conditioned on providing DPS documentation of a legal right from MCPS to attach antennas at time of permitting.*
7. Clearwire application to attach six antennas to the penthouse walls atop a Londonderry Apartments building, 17060 King James Way, Gaithersburg (#201006-01).
8. Clearwire application to attach four antennas to PEPCO transmission line tower #646-N located behind 9712 Aldersgate Road, Potomac (#201006-03).  
*Conditioned on meeting equipment screening requirements of §59A-6.14.*
9. Clearwire application to attach five antennas to the monopole on Tilden Middle School property, 11211 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville (#201006-05).  
*Conditioned on providing DPS documentation of a legal right from MCPS to attach antennas at time of permitting.*

Mary Pat Wilson asked that Item #3 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

**Motion:** David Niblock moved the remaining consent agenda items be recommended as conditioned. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was approved with Mary Pat Wilson abstaining on applications #201005-08 and #201006-05.

**Action Item Agenda Item #3:** Cricket application to replace three panel antennas on the monopole on Sherwood High School property, 300 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Sandy Spring (#201005-02).  
*Conditioned on providing to DPS documentation of a legal right from MCPS to attach antennas at the time of permitting.*

Mary Pat Wilson stated that she would like to add a condition to the Tower Coordinators recommendation that a structural analysis report be provided to DPS and the Tower Coordinator at the time of permitting which states the addition of the dish antenna can be safely made.

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert so moved. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was approved with Mary Pat Wilson abstaining.

**Action Item:** NewPath/AT&T application to attach six DAS antennas atop 11 replacement PEPCO utility poles in the Potomac vicinity Madeira hub location (#201005-06).  
*Conditioned on being granted a County telecommunications franchise that permits the fiber optic cables and equipment in the Countys right-of-way; and on any approvals that may be required from the Historical Preservation Committee and the National Park Service for placement of telecommunications facilities near their areas of concern.*

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application, noting that this application and the next one on the agenda are two of the four DAS applications discussed by NewPath at their presentation at the March TFCG meeting. He stated that the conditions as recommended are based on circumstances similar to when NextG applied for its DAS in this same vicinity. He asked Gregory Tully for an update of progress on addressing those conditions. Mr. Tully stated that just the day before he had received a report from the National Park Service that they would be sending a letter expressing that they had no objections to the antennas but that they would condition their approval on NewPath painting the equipment cabinets brown, which NewPath agreed to do.

John Kessler stated that NewPath had submitted for approval to the County Attorney a redlined version of the model franchise agreement provided to them by the County Attorney. He added that he did not believe there would be any problems in reaching agreement with the County on the terms and conditions of the franchise and that he hoped it would be approved by the County within the next four months.

Carlton Gilbert asked about the status of approval by the Historical Preservation Committee. Mr. Kessler explained that they were working with that group as well to obtain their concurrence on the DAS.

Mr. Hunnicutt noted that two sets of three antennas would be placed atop each of 11 replacement PEPCO poles in this area to be served by the DAS. He added that all of the replacement poles would be taller than the existing poles and that two of the poles would be considerably higher. He noted that some of the poles to be replaced were next to poles previously replaced by NextG for its DAS; consequently, some residents may object to the changes. He said that NewPath has stated that if there were objections to the appearance of the antennas, they would conceal them within a shroud atop the pole. He also noted that for both of the DAS applications, there are still other antenna locations planned and that NewPath had advised him that they would submit additional applications for those placements when needed.

Marty Liebman summarized his engineering review of the DAS, noting that the antennas are capable of transmitting signals in the PCS, Cellular, and AWS bands and that they could accommodate additional carriers signals as well as those of AT&T. He added that the antennas will provide coverage along MacArthur Boulevard and Falls Road as well as in the neighborhoods in the vicinity of the antennas.

Mary Pat Wilson asked about guying of the new poles, because approval by the property owners would likely be needed for the replacement poles not in the public rights-of-way. She noted that obtaining that approval may hinder deployment of the DAS and asked how NewPath planned to address that potential problem. Mr. Hunnicutt stated that most of the poles and guy wires were in the public right-of-way, though there are some stub poles that are undoubtedly on private property. Mr. Tully replied that PEPCO is responsible for obtaining easements for those purposes because they will be installing the replacement poles and that at some locations easements will need to be obtained.

Ms. Wilson asked if the poles would need to be replaced again when other carriers co-locate on the poles. Mr. Tully replied that once the new poles for the AT&T service were in place, that would be all that will be needed because the antennas to be attached can accommodate additional carriers with only changes to the equipment on the ground.

Ms. Wilson asked if the equipment would be placed in existing shelters. Mr. Hunnicutt replied that the

equipment would be placed inside an existing building at the Avenel Golf Course for the Madeira DAS and in the AT&T shelter at the Argyle Country Club for the Norbeck DAS.

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** NewPath/AT&T application to attach six DAS antennas atop eight PEPCO utility poles in the vicinity of Leisure World in Silver Spring Leisure World hub location (#201005-07).

*Conditioned on being granted a County telecommunications franchise that permits the fiber optic cables and equipment in the Countys right-of-way.*

Mr. Hunnicutt summarized the application, noting that this recommendation is similar to the Madeira DAS except it is for eight of 14 planned antennas locations. He noted that the remaining sites were in Leisure World and that NewPath was working with Leisure World management for approval to place the additional antennas there. He added that NewPath had stated they would submit additional applications for those sites when approved.

Marty Liebman explained that the locations for these antennas were primarily along major roadways to cover service areas enclosed by Georgia Avenue, Layhill Road, Norbeck Road, and Bel Pre Road. He noted that there was a significant area where AT&Ts signal levels were below target service levels for in-vehicle and in-building reception to the northeast of Leisure World, which the DAS could improve. He added that because a number of the antenna locations were in close proximity to the ICC, he expected that other carriers would also use the DAS, once constructed, to improve coverage and add capacity expected to be needed by traffic along that roadway when it is completed.

**Motion:** Dave Niblock moved the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Mary Pat Wilson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Discussion Item:<**